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PATENT

Applicant or Patentee: 37 CFR 1.47(b) Applicant Safaco,  
Serial or Patent No.:  
Filed or Issued:  
For: Valve Actuator Apparatus and Method

Attorney's  
Docket No. Safoco-01

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: Safaco, Inc.  
ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 11421-A Todd Road  
Houston, Texas 77055

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law are conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention entitled **Valve Actuator Apparatus and Method** by inventor(s) described in

- ☒ the specification filed herewith  
☐ application serial no.: \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ patent no.: \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below\* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000005165849\*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAddress: COMMISSIONER OF PATENT AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/538,881	03/30/2000	Terry G. Young	Safoco-1

C James Bushman  
Browning Bushman  
5718 Westheimer Suite 1800  
Houston, TX 77057



Date Mailed: 06/08/2000

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is missing.  
*A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.*
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 130.

*A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

08/04/2000 EXAMINER 00000054 09538881

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Terry G. Young

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Atty. Docket No.: Safoco-1-1

Serial No.: 09/538,881

Filed: March 30, 2000

For: Valve Actuator Apparatus



**REQUEST FOR CORRECTION OF FILING RECEIPT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Attn.: Office of Initial Patent Examination  
Customer Service Center

Sir:

Kindly amend the Filing Receipt for the captioned case as indicated below and on the enclosed copy:

Under "Applicants," please add the inventor's residence information, as follows:

Terry G. Young, Spring, Texas

Respectfully submitted,

C. James Bushman  
Reg. No. 24,810

Date: 7/31/00  
Browning Bushman  
5718 Westheimer, Suite 1800  
Houston, Texas 77057  
Tel.: (713) 266-5593  
Fax: (713) 266-5169

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, C. James Bushman, hereby certify that this correspondence and all referenced enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Office of Initial Patent Examination Customer Service Center, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on July 31, 2000.

**FILING RECEIPT**

\*OC000000005165848\*

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**Address: ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENT AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D C 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
09/538,881	03/30/2000	3753	690	Safoco-1	7	3	3

C James Bushman  
Browning Bushman  
5718 Westheimer Suite 1800  
Houston, TX 77057



Date Mailed: 06/08/2000

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the PTO processes the reply to the Notice, the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).**

**Applicant(s)**

Terry G. Young, ~~Residence Not Provided~~; Spring, Texas;

**Continuing Data as Claimed by Applicant**

THIS APPLICATION IS A CON OF 08/968,904 11/06/1997  
WHICH IS A CON OF 08/206,424 03/04/1994 ABN

**Foreign Applications**

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 06/08/2000

**Title**

Valve actuator apparatus

**Preliminary Class**

251

Data entry by : MOLLISH, CHRISTINE

Team : OIPE

Date: 06/08/2000

